



Hello Friends,

On June 12, I brought together a number of local potable water suppliers from the 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District to the table with state officials from the Department of Water Resources, Water Quality Control Board, Department of Health Services and other agencies for a roundtable Water Forum. Over 30 water providers and numerous state officials were present.

The intent of this meeting was twofold. First I wanted to bring together key state decision-makers, along with relevant stakeholders from my District, to help craft reasonable guidelines and procedures for the application process for potential water bond funding. Second, I wanted to have local water providers share concerns specific to the Southern San Joaquin Valley with relevant state agencies.

At the Water Forum, state officials also discussed potential funding and technical assistance to local providers to help assure clean, reliable drinking water. Included in the discussion were guidelines for both Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 bonds, and other state funding sources such as the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

With bond funding other state resources currently available, I believe this meeting went a long way towards bridging the gap between those in need and those with the ability to make a difference for thousands of families in the 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District.

To access the Department of Health Services' universal pre-application for water bond funding, visit: [www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/Prop50/default.htm](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/Prop50/default.htm)

To learn more about the Department of Water Resources' Proposition 84 and Proposition 50 guidelines, visit: [www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/grants/irwm/integregio\\_news.cfm](http://www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/grants/irwm/integregio_news.cfm)

For contact information for personnel and assistance with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, visit: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/phone\\_list/phonelistfresno.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/phone_list/phonelistfresno.html)

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### What's Happening in Sacramento

You may have **unclaimed property** that the state is holding. The State Controller's office has billions of dollars in assets that have been turned over by banks, businesses and other organizations as required by law. **There is no charge to file a claim for Unclaimed Property.** To see if you have monies waiting for you, visit: [www.sco.ca.gov/col/ucp](http://www.sco.ca.gov/col/ucp)

Assembly Republican leader Mike Villines unveiled **new redistricting legislation** to alter how California draws political districts. Assemblyman Villines' proposed **Assembly Constitutional Amendment 4** is the latest in a growing list of redistricting proposals. His proposal would remove the map-drawing authority from lawmakers and give it to an 11-member citizens commission whose members would be selected randomly from voter rolls.

[www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/acsframeset2text.htm](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/acsframeset2text.htm)

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### My Legislative Highlights

I am proud to announce the passage of a critical part of my 2007-2008 legislative package out of the State Assembly last week. Legislators stayed in session throughout the week, often long into the night, to hear hundreds of bills. I look forward to now working with the Senate to quickly pass my bills to foster construction of schools in rural communities, give local communities input in water quality and reliability decisions, and improve public safety. The bills passed include:

**AB 442** updates and conforms sections of the Penal Code to keep current with Proposition 83, commonly known as "Jessica's Law," which voters approved last fall. This bill would ensure that the penalty increases for child pornographers included in Proposition 83 go into effect.

**AB 808** would require people applying for a driver's license, or renewal of a license, to acknowledge that drinking and driving can result in death. Assemblymember Parra introduced AB 808 as part of a bi-partisan package of bills designed to reduce drunk driving.

**AB 831** would help the state avoid wasting money, improve the integrity of the budget process, shine a light on long-hidden spending, and put budgeted spending and tax-code spending on more of a level playing field, by requiring that all tax expenditures contain a "sunset clause."

**AB 877** seeks to obtain a quantification of the resulting economic impacts associated with water supply reduction in the eight-county region comprising the San Joaquin Valley. These economic figures are a critical component for the development a San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plan.

**AB 1545** eases the process for rural schools attempting to apply for hardship funding from the state. The bill is a follow up to legislation introduced last session by Assemblymember Parra that aids low-wealth school districts in completing the construction of school facilities. AB 1545 requires the State Office of Public School Construction to assess the current hardship funding scheme and recommend changes, including those to specifically help low-wealth school districts.

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### Constituents Visit Sacramento

I had the pleasure of meeting the new **McFarland Unified Board Chair Ramon Melendez, and McFarland School Superintendent Gabriel McCurtis**. They shared some of their recent programs designed to improve the district to better serve its students. Modernization projects are underway to provide a better atmosphere for teachers and students.

**Kern County Supervisor Jon McQuiston** came to Sacramento and stopped by to discuss the budget and bonds. I appreciated the chance to talk with the Supervisor and hear about important issues facing Kern County.

Representatives from the **California Business Properties Association (CBPA)** visited with me as part of their Annual Meeting and Commercial Real Estate Summit. CBPA officials from throughout the 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District shared their thoughts with me on keeping California's economy moving forward. The CBPA is a leading force in the state in representing commercial, retail, and industrial real estate interests and their contributions to our growing economy. That is why I was extremely honored to also receive their **"2007 Legislator of the Year" Award**.

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### In the District

I am pleased to announce that the **State Employment Training Panel (ETP)** approved a job-training program in the amount of \$214,200 for **McLellan Equipment, Inc of Hanford**. This training grant will update the skills of 140 employees in its workforce to help McLellan address out-of-state competition and remain competitive.

I also want to congratulate **Kit Carson Union School District in Hanford** for successfully receiving a construction grant from the State Department of Health Services' (CDHS) **Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund**. The approximately \$500,000 grant will help the school district in meeting its potable drinking water needs.

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### Meeting Requests

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Rozanne Jones** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at [Rozanne.Jones@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Rozanne.Jones@asm.ca.gov)

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### Interns Wanted

I am accepting applications for the internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield and Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the **30th Assembly District**, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues

facing the **Central Valley**. Applications can be found by going to:  
<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Richard Valle** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at:  
[Richard.Valle@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Richard.Valle@asm.ca.gov)

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Nerissa Robinson** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at:  
[Nerissa.Robinson@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Nerissa.Robinson@asm.ca.gov)

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at:  
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